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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/763,583	01/23/2004	Chon Hei Lei	50277-2408	7743

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EXAMINER

LEWIS, CHERYL RENE A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2167

DATE MAILED: 07/25/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/763,583	Applicant(s) LEI ET AL.	
	Examiner Cheryl Lewis	Art Unit 2167	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>7/22/04; 5/26/05; 7/25/05; /</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

10/13/05; 10/24/05;  
2/13/06; and 5/2/06

## DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-20 are presented for examination.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Fabbio (Pat. No. 5,335,346 filed December 12, 1991).
4. Regarding Claims 1 and 11, Fabbio teaches access control policies for an object oriented database, including access control lists which span across object boundaries.

The method and associated system for access control policies for an object oriented database, including access control lists which span across object boundaries as taught or suggested by Fabbio includes:

detecting that a database command is issued (col. 6, lines 41-68, col. 7, lines 1-68, col. 8, lines 1-68, col. 9, lines 1-68, col. 12, lines 1-68, col. 13, lines 1-68); a database command requires access to at least one column in a table (col. 6, lines 41-68, col. 7, lines 1-68, col. 8, lines 1-68, col. 9, lines 1-68, col. 12, lines 1-68, col. 13, lines 1-68); rewriting database command by creating a modified database command (col. 6, lines 41-68, col. 7, lines 1-68, col. 8, lines 1-68, col. 9, lines 1-68, col. 12, lines 1-

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68, col. 13, lines 1-68) based on the database command; the modified database command specifies whether a mask a value of a column by returning a mask of the value (col. 6, lines 41-68, col. 7, lines 1-68, col. 8, lines 1-68, col. 9, lines 1-68, col. 12, lines 1-68, col. 13, lines 1-68) and executing the database command (col. 6, lines 41-68, col. 7, lines 1-68, col. 8, lines 1-68, col. 9, lines 1-68, col. 12, lines 1-68, col. 13, lines 1-68).

5. Regarding Claims 2 and 12, the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claims 1 and 11 above. In addition, Fabbio teaches two values are located in different one of at least two columns (col. 6, lines 41-68, col. 7, lines 1-68, col. 8, lines 1-68, col. 9, lines 1-68, col. 12, lines 1-68, col. 13, lines 1-68).

6. Regarding Claims 3 and 13, Fabbio teaches a condition expression returned by a policy (col. 6, lines 41-68, col. 7, lines 1-68, col. 8, lines 1-68, col. 9, lines 1-68, col. 12, lines 1-68, col. 13, lines 1-68).

7. Regarding Claims 4 and 14, Fabbio teaches database command issued do not satisfy the condition and access privileges granted (col. 6, lines 41-68, col. 7, lines 1-68, col. 8, lines 1-68, col. 9, lines 1-68, col. 12, lines 1-68, col. 13, lines 1-68).

8. Regarding Claims 5 and 15, the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejection of claims 1 and 11 above. In addition, Fabbio teaches storing metadata that associates a list of one or more columns with a policy used for controlling access to one or more columns (col. 6, lines 41-68, col. 7, lines 1-68, col. 8, lines 1-68, col. 9, lines 1-68, col. 12, lines 1-68, col. 13, lines 1-68).

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9. Regarding Claims 6-8 and 16-18, the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejections of claims 1-16 presented above. They are therefore rejected as set forth above.

10. Regarding Claims 9 and 19, Fabbio teaches a policy function with a database server the policy function returns a condition expression and the modified database command is based on the condition expression (col. 6, lines 41-68, col. 7, lines 1-68, col. 8, lines 1-68, col. 9, lines 1-68, col. 12, lines 1-68, col. 13, lines 1-68).

11. Regarding Claims 10 and 20, the limitations of these claims have been noted in the rejections of claims 1 and 11 presented above. In addition, Fabbio teaches detecting that the database command requires access to one column (col. 6, lines 41-68, col. 7, lines 1-68, col. 8, lines 1-68, col. 9, lines 1-68, col. 12, lines 1-68, col. 13, lines 1-68) creating a modified database command by selectively adding zero or more predicates that are satisfied by rows in the table to which the user is permitted to access (col. 6, lines 41-68, col. 7, lines 1-68, col. 8, lines 1-68, col. 9, lines 1-68, col. 12, lines 1-68, col. 13, lines 1-68).

#### **NAME OF CONTACT**

20. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheryl Lewis whose telephone number is (571) 272-4113. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Cottingham can be reached on (571) 272-7079. The fax phone

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number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

(571) 273-4113 (Use this FAX #, only after approval by Examiner, for "INFORMAL" or "DRAFT" communication. Examiners may request that a formal paper/amendment be faxed directly to them on occasions.).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist/ Technology Center (571) 272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>.

Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cheryl Lewis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and "L".

Cheryl Lewis  
Patent Examiner  
July 10, 2006